

IN THE CLAIMS

1-10 (canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A self-illuminating vehicle roof assembly, comprising:

a vehicle roof wall having an interior surface and an exterior surface; and

an interior panel secured to the interior surface of the vehicle roof wall, wherein the interior panel substantially covers the interior surface of the vehicle roof wall, the interior panel being comprised of a phosphorescent material and a polymer matrix.

12. (Original) The assembly according to Claim 11, wherein the phosphorescent material is dispersed within the polymer matrix.

13. (Original) The assembly according to Claim 11, wherein the phosphorescent material is disposed on at least one surface of the polymer matrix.

14. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to Claim 11, wherein the phosphorescent material comprises a non-oxide phosphor, an oxide phosphor, or a combination ~~comprising at least one of the foregoing phosphors~~, the phosphorescent material being configured to form a pattern on or in the polymer matrix.

15. (Currently Amended) The assembly according to Claim 14, wherein the non-oxide phosphor is selected from a group consisting of zinc sulfide, zinc sulfide doped with a transition metal, and zinc sulfide doped with a rare earth metal, the zinc sulfide doped with a transition metal being configured to provide a glow light discharge with a particular hue.

16. (Original) The assembly according to Claim 11 further comprising:

a light-conducting component disposed between a location external to the vehicle and a point adjacent to the interior panel to transmit external light to the interior panel for exciting the phosphorescent material to glow for a period of time following exposure to the external light.

17. (Original) The assembly according to Claim 11, wherein the light-conducting component comprises an existing window of the vehicle.

18-20. (Canceled)